Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1. (currently amended) A <u>solid</u> composition for application to the oral mucosa comprising a tetracycline <u>sulfosalicylate salt</u> and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier <u>comprising a sugar</u>, <u>selected from the group consisting of a mucoadhesive polymer</u>, <u>and a buffer</u>, where the buffer is in an amount sufficient to provide <u>a solution formed using the composition a pH of from 6.5 to 9</u> <u>viscous polymer gel and a hydrogel</u>.

Claims 2-17. (cancelled)

Claim 18. (currently amended) A method for treating or

preventing oral mucositis resulting from treatment of cancer

using radiation or chemotherapy for cancer comprising

administering to a patient an effective amount of a composition

according to claim 1 comprising a tetracycline and a

pharmaceutically acceptable carrier selected from the group

consisting of a mucoadhesive polymer, a viscous polymer gel and a

hydrogel.

Claim 19. (new) A composition according to claim 19, where the mucoadhesive polymer is gelatin.

Claim 20. (new) A composition according to claim 19, where the tetracycline sulfosalicylate is meclocycline sulfosalicylate.

Claim 21. (new) A composition according to claim 19, where the sugar is lactose.

Claim 22. (new) A composition according to claim 19, where the sugar is mannitol.

Claim 23. (new) A composition according to claim 20, where the sugar is lactose.

Claim 24. (new) A composition according to claim 20, where the sugar is mannitol.

Claim 25. (new) A composition according to claim 23, where the mucoadhesive polymer is gelatin.

Claim 26. (new) A composition according to claim 24, where the mucoadhesive polymer is gelatin.

Claim 27. (new) A solution suitable for use as a mouth rinse comprising meclocycline sulfosalicylate, a sugar, and an amount of a buffer sufficient to provide the solution with a pH of from 6.5-9.

Claim 28. (new) A solution according to claim 27, where the sugar is mannitol.

Claim 29. (new) A solution according to claim 27, where the sugar is lactose.

Claim 30. (new) A method for treating oral mucositis resulting from treatment of cancer using radiation or chemotherapy comprising administering to a patient an effective amount of a solution according to claim 27.